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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

This invention is directed to methods for improving functional health status in a patient in need thereof which comprises administering a growth hormone secretagogue, a prodrug thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said secretagogue or said prodrug. More preferably, the present invention provides such methods wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is a compound of Formula I:

HET
$$\mathbb{R}^4$$
 \mathbb{R}^9 \mathbb{R}^7 \mathbb{R}^8 \mathbb{R}^8 ,

a prodrug thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said secretagogue or said prodrug.